

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S "QUARANTINE" OF CUBA GIVEN COMPLETE COVERAGE BY FRENCH PRESS WHICH CENTERED IN VARYING DEGREES ON FOLLOWING: (1) GRAVEST CRISES SINCE WORLD WAR II,

(2) RELATIONSHIP OF CUBA TO BERLIN WITH ASSERTION BERLIN IS REAL SOVIET GOAL,

(3) CONTENTION CUBAN MOVE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO FORTHCOMING CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION,

(4) SIMILARITY DRAWN BETWEEN US MISSILE BASES IN TURKEY AND RUSSIAN BASES IN CUBA,

(5) AWARENESS OF DISTINCTION BETWEEN BLOCKADE AND QUARANTINE AND POSSIBLE GRADATIONS OF US USE OF FORCE,

(6) UNEASINESS ABOUT LACK OF CONSULTATION BETWEEN AMERICA AND HER EUROPEAN ALLIES,

(7) SOME QUESTIONING OF EXTENT TO WHICH MILITARY SITUATION ACTUALLY ALTERED BY SOVIETS IN CUBA, CONSIDERING SOVIET ICBM'S ALREADY TARGETED ON US OBJECTIVES. THUS SOVIET CUBAN ACTIONS INTERPRETED AS HAVING MORE POLITICAL THAN MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE FOR US.

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